4. While the cage is partly in the water, carefully transfer the fish to the cage, taking care not to injure them. Ten to twenty fish are recommended per cage, depending on the size of the cage.

5. Recommendation: Suspend the cage in the water column, so that it is not in contact with the sediment, or below any thermocline that might form during the exposure period. Warning: Take what ever steps are possible to minimize vandalism during the exposure period.

6. Leave the cage on-site for 28 days.

7. At the end of the exposure period, retrieve the cage and transfer the fish to one or more labeled wide-mouth jars.

8. Place the jars in an ice chest on ice and transfer to the analytical laboratory.

## 4.0 FIELD QA/QC

Depending on the intentions of the study, it may be desirable to process the fish from each cage as multiple samples rather than a single sample. This assumes that sufficient fish survive the exposure. If sufficient fish are available, triplicate samples are recommended for investigating contaminant heterogeneity. Information on sample replication requirements are stated in the project-specific Field Sampling Plan.

## 5.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Normal water safety precautions must always be observed, including wearing life vests, taking care to avoid hypothermia or heat stroke, etc.